

POLITICAL SCIENCE HONORS

CONTACT

Director of Advanced Programs

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Undergraduate Advisors

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ELIGIBILITY

- Students must have completed at least two semesters at BU and have junior standing
 - Overall GPA: 3.3 or above
 - Major GPA: 3.5 or above
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BENEFITS

This program provides students with the opportunities to:

- Develop research and analysis skills
- Conduct and present unique research
- Opportunities for fieldwork and funded research
- Engage with the world of academia in a more in depth manner
- Build a professional/mentorship relationship with someone in the field

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Honors Program in Political Science challenges you to explore politics in three ways: first, by taking and excelling in advanced coursework; second, by engaging in original research to produce a thesis; and third, by experiencing the practical world of politics and government. It is the most stimulating intellectual enterprise in which an undergraduate can engage, demanding dedication, creativity, and the ability to exercise independent judgment.

CURRICULUM

Students who wish to graduate with Honors must satisfactorily complete a research methods course with a minimum grade of B, conduct two semester of Directed Study with a minimum grade of B+, and successfully complete the writing and defense of a thesis and presentation of the research.

Students will enroll in these courses which will count towards their BA requirements:

- PO399/599 or PO502 ____
- PO493 ____
- PO494 ____

Thesis Requirements:

- The thesis must be distinct from previous undergraduate coursework
 - Students may not resubmit work done during undergraduate coursework as their thesis, but they may build off of topics explored in previous courses
 - Students will present and defend their thesis at the end of the year to a committee of three faculty members
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APPLICATION OVERVIEW

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 15TH

Students must submit all required materials by this date, no exceptions.

FIRST STEPS:

Before applying to the Honors program, students must:

- Meet with their undergraduate advisor to go over remaining academic requirements
- Meet with a faculty advisor who is a full-time faculty member of the Political Science department and discuss intended research

APPLICATION MATERIALS:

The following materials are required to apply:

- Application Form (found on PO website) ____
- Unofficial Transcript ____
- One recommendation letter from Faculty Advisor ____
- Research Statement (3-5 pages) ____